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of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the Year 1957

THE JOURNAL OF THE
ROYAL ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE



The Rural District Council of Bromsgrove

With the Compliments
of the
Chief Public Health Inspector

Health Department,
Rural Council Offices,
Birmingham Road,
Bromsgrove.



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BROMSGROVE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT
FOR THE YEAR 1957

Chairman of the Council	L. J. BOFFEY ESQ., J. P.
Vice-Chairman of the Council	W. EDGAR LEE ESQ.
Chairman of the Public Health Committee	E. V. GODRICH ESQ.
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W. T. FOX ESQ.	J. H. MAHLER ESQ.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health	E. T. SHENNAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (to 31.3.57.) C. H. PHILLIPS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (from 1.9.57.)
Deputy Medical Officer of Health	V. PUGH, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Chief Public Health Inspector	P. P. CHAMINGS, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector).
Additional Public Health Inspector	R. F. ROBINS, M.A.P.H.I., (Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector).
Assistant Public Health Inspector	K. J. SMITH.
Clerk	MRS. V. M. GARRATT

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1957

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
BROMSGROVE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting the Report on the state of the Public Health in the Rural District of Bromsgrove and the work carried out by your Health Department during the year 1957.

Dr. E. T. Shennan held the post of Medical Officer of Health until 31st March and I am sure he would join me in expressing our appreciation of the work done by Mr. Chamings, the Public Health Inspectors, and Staff of the Health Department and also of the assistance and co-operation of Officers and Staffs of other Departments.

The estimated population increased to 32,600, an increase of 1,220 over the previous year. In spite of new building there were still many applicants on the Council's Housing List, and it is hoped that the unsatisfactory conditions in which some of them continue to live will be relieved as soon as possible.

There was a small decrease in the birth rate to 17.45 (17.78) and the death rate to 9.26 (9.62). The infant and neonatal mortality rates increased to 15.54 (14.26) and 12.09 (10.75) respectively.

Diseases of the circulatory system, malignant disease and respiratory disease (excluding tuberculosis) accounted for 83.6% of the total deaths.

Notifications of infectious disease showed an increase, mainly due to the incidence of measles and whooping cough. There were two cases of poliomyelitis, one of the paralytic type, the other non-paralytic.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

C. H. PHILLIPS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,
D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres 45,610				
Registrar General's estimate of	..	..	..	Mid 1957 - 32,600
resident population				Mid 1956 - 31,380
(Census, 1951 - 28,172)	..	..	..	Mid 1947 - 25,230
				Mid 1937 - 19,620
Number of inhabited houses	..	..	..	End of 1957 - 10,006
according to the Rate Book				End of 1956 - 9,221
				End of 1947 - 7,798
				End of 1937 - 6,645
Rateable Value, 31st March, 1957	..	..	..	£335,248
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate	..	..	..	£1,376
at 31st March, 1957				

Estimated

POPULATION BY PARISHES									1939	1957
Alvechurch	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,236	5,380
Belbroughton	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,676	2,790
Bentley Pauncefoot..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	344	340
Beoley	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	770	900
Clent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,943	2,180
Cofton Hackett..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,736	4,940
Dodford-with-Grafton	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	513	600
Frankley	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	184	180
Hagley	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,233	3,060
Hunnington..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	543	590
Romsley	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,070	1,050
Stoke Prior	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,130	2,620
Tutnall and Copley..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	697	820
Wythall	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,482	7,150
TOTALS									24,557	32,600

VITAL STATISTICS (1956 figures in brackets)

LIVE BIRTHS

	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	272 (286)	292 (252)	564 (538)
Illegitimate	5 (13)	10 (7)	15 (20)
	277 (299)	302 (259)	579 (558)

<u>Birth Rate</u> (Births per 1,000 population)							
	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1937</u>	<u>1957 - Eng. Wales</u>	
Crude	17.45	17.78	13.40	13.99	14.1	16.1	(15.7)
Comparability Factor	1.01	1.01	1.04	1.04			
Standardised	17.62	17.95	13.93	14.54			

There was an increase in the number of births. The standardised birth rate of 17.62 was above that of the whole country of 16.1.

Illegitimacy Rate (Total live illegitimate births per 1,000 total live births).

<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1937</u>
25.9	35.8	54.9	36.4	32.0

STILL BIRTHS

	M.	F.	Total	
Legitimate	8	5	13	(12)
Illegitimate	1	-	1	(-)
	-	-		
	9	5	14	(12)
	=	=		

Still-birth Rate (Still births per 1,000 total live and still births).

<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1937</u>	<u>1957 - Eng. Wales</u>	
23.6	21.0	24.4	21.4	38.1	22.4	(23.0)

DEATHS

M.	F.	Total
148 (147)	153 (155)	301 (302)

<u>Death Rate</u> (Deaths per 1,000 population)							
	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1937</u>	<u>1957 - Eng. Wales</u>	
Crude	9.26	9.62	9.40	9.84	11.1	11.5	(11.7)
Comparability Factor	1.17	1.17	1.03	1.03			
Standardised	10.83	11.25	9.68	10.13		11.5	(11.7)

Major Causes of Deaths (by percentages)

	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>
1. Disease of the Circulatory System	51.3%	53.0%	53.7%	49.1%
2. Malignant Diseases (all forms)	18.8%	18.8%	16.0%	15.2%
3. Respiratory Diseases (excluding T.B.)	13.5%	10.9%	9.9%	12.5%
4. Accidents	3.6%	2.6%	4.6%	3.5%
5. Tuberculosis (all forms)	.6%	2.0%	1.8%	1.8%

MATERNAL DEATHS

Maternal Mortality (Maternal Deaths per 1,000 total live and still births)

<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1937</u>	<u>1957-England and Wales</u>
Nil	Nil	Nil	2.38	Nil	0.47 (0.56)

INFANT AND NEONATAL DEATHS

Infant deaths (under 1 year of age).

	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	3	6	9 (8)
Illegitimate	-	-	- (-)
	-	-	-
	3	6	9 (8)
	-	-	-

Neonatal deaths (under 4 weeks of age).

Legitimate	3	4	7 (6)
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	3	4	7 (6)
	-	-	-

Infant and Neonatal Mortality Rates

	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1957 - Eng. and Wales</u>
Deaths of Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	15.95	14.87	18.37	22.73	-
Deaths of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	-	45.45	133.53	-
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age per 1,000 total live births	12.09	10.75	14.88	14.60	16.5
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 total live births	15.54	14.26	19.85	26.76	23.0

Causes of Infant Deaths

Congenital Malformation	1
Prematurity	6 (Neonatal)
Respiratory Disease	2 (1 Neonatal)

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BROMSGROVE RURAL DISTRICT

1957

Causes of Death	M.	F.	Total	Mortality Rate per 1,000 Pop.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	2	2	.06
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-	1	.03
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	2	7	.21
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	6	3	9	.27
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	9	9	.27
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	24	31	.95
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-	1	.03
16. Diabetes	1	3	4	.12
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	21	23	44	1.35
18. Coronary disease, angina	28	15	43	1.31
19. Hypertension with heart disease	10	2	12	.36
20. Other heart disease	18	33	51	1.56
21. Other circulatory disease	2	3	5	.15
22. Influenza	4	3	7	.21
23. Pneumonia	4	10	14	.42
24. Bronchitis	14	4	18	.55
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	-	2	2	.06
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	-	3	.09
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1	.03
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1	.03
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-	-
31. Congenital Malformation	1	1	2	.06
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	10	19	.58
33. Motor vehicle accidents	4	2	6	.18
34. All other accidents	3	2	5	.15
35. Suicide	4	-	4	.12
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	148	153	301	9.26

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

The County Council continued to administer the several ante-natal, child welfare, school immunisation, dental and specialist clinics where much valuable work is done towards the preservation of health of the community and the prevention of disease. The help given at Infant Welfare Clinics by voluntary workers was very much appreciated by the Medical and Nursing Staffs.

The Health Visiting, Home Nursing and Midwifery Services, provided by the County Council, supported by the Home Help Service arranged by the W.V.S. and Loan of Nursing Requisites Scheme managed by the Red Cross, continued to provide useful domiciliary help.

(a) Hospital Services

The following hospitals were available to the residents of the district:-

Infectious Disease	Hayley Green Hospital, Halesowen Little Bromwich Fever Hospital, Birmingham
Tuberculosis	Knightwick Sanatorium Hayley Green Sanatorium, Halesowen
Maternity	All Saints Hospital, Bromsgrove Mary Stevens Maternity Hospital, Stourbridge Lucy Baldwin Maternity Hospital, Stourport The Birmingham Maternity Hospital, Birmingham
Children's Disease	Children's Hospital, Birmingham
Venereal Disease	General Hospital, Birmingham Royal Infirmary, Worcester
Mental Illness	Barnsley Hall Mental Hospital, Bromsgrove Powick Mental Hospital, Malvern
Chest Surgery	Hill Top Hospital, Bromsgrove
General	All Saints Hospital, Bromsgrove Bromsgrove Cottage Hospital Smallwood Hospital, Redditch The General Hospital, Birmingham
Aged Chronic Sick	All Saints Hospital, Bromsgrove

(b) Laboratory Facilities

Bacteriological examinations were carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Royal Infirmary, Worcester. Analysis of water etc., was carried out by the County Laboratory at Worcester. The Health Department is indebted to the directors of those laboratories for their ready assistance and co-operation.

Figures of immunisation and vaccination carried out are found under Section (F).

(c) Ambulance Service

This was provided by the County Council and the Rural District was serviced from surrounding centres.

(d) Health Education

The Council contributes to the Central Council for Health Education.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. Sanitary Inspection of the Area

The Chief Public Health Inspector in his report gives details of the Sanitary Inspections carried out during the year.

2. Water Supply

The Council's water undertakings were taken over by the Statutory Water Undertakings on 1st April. This left the Council only responsible for supplies to Adams Hill, Clent and for about eleven premises at Romsley.

Most of the houses in the district were supplied with main piped water supplies which were satisfactory in quality and quantity. There were still, however, many dwellings and farm premises with only well water supplies. These latter supplies were to a large extent, unsatisfactory.

Routine sampling of drinking water from private wells and springs for bacteriological and chemical analysis was continued during the year. The results were very poor; 61% were bacteriologically unsatisfactory while 55% were chemically unsatisfactory.

Sampling at source of main supplies was done by the water undertakings, but consumer samples were taken from time to time in the District. All were satisfactory.

During the year under review, the following extensions of mains were effected:-

The City of Birmingham Water Department	1,142 yards
East Worcestershire Waterworks Company	1,684 yards
The South Staffordshire Waterworks Company	310 yards
Stourbridge and District Water Board	40 yards

In addition 1983 yards of duplicate main from Holy Cross to Belbroughton were laid, but not brought into use until early 1958.

Certain of the water supply extension schemes, which had already been approved in principle, were carried out as follows:-

Extension of Banks Green main, Bentley
Further extension - Copyholt Lane, Stoke Prior
Orchard Farm to Gate Hangs Well, Stoke Prior

The outstanding schemes which have been approved in principle by the Ministry are as follows:-

<u>Location</u>	<u>Parish</u>
Madeley Heath and Newtown *	Belbroughton
Walton Pool and Vine Lane	Clent
Rumbow	Clent and Romsley
Dark Lane	Wythall

* Work on this scheduled to start early in 1958.

3. Drainage and Sewerage

The following are the Sewage Disposal Works situated in the District:-

Alvechurch	Lye Bridge
Clent	Hossill Lane
	Horse Pasture - land irrigation
Cofton Hackett	Kingswood Road - to Birmingham
	Cofton Road
Belbroughton	Weybridge
Hagley	Sweetpool Lane
Hunnington	Illey Lane
Stoke Prior	Stoke Works
	Finstall - Pumping Station to Bromsgrove U.D.C.
Wythall	Houndsfield Lane

The general position with regard to proposed schemes for sewers and sewage disposal at the end of the year was as follows:-

Alvechurch

Hopwood area.	Approved by Ministry. Awaiting taking out of trial hole to ascertain if canal crossing shall be made in tunnel or open cut.
Bordesley area and Rowney Green.	Approved in principle by Council, but now in abeyance.
Lye Bridge Works.	Extension approved in principle by Council as and when necessary.
Tanyard Lane. (Relief sewer)	Plans prepared. Has been in abeyance, but Consulting Engineer recently instructed to prepare up to date estimate.
Bittell Road (Duplication)	Approved in principle and plans prepared. In abeyance.

Belbroughton

Fairfield: Approved in principle by Council. Awaiting meeting with Bromsgrove U.D.C. re sharing of joint capital costs and cost of treatment.
Wildmoor. In abeyance.

Clent

Pinewoods Approved in principle. Consulting Engineer Avenue area. requested to prepare report.

Beoley

Holt End. Preliminary report by Consulting Engineers considered. Approved in principle by Council, but consideration deferred.

Hagley

Sweetpool Approved by Ministry and work has been commenced.
Lane Works. Estimated cost £71,500.

Hunnington

Illey Lane Reconstruction and extension approved in principle.
Works. In abeyance.

Stoke Prior

Henbrook Extensions approved in principle by Council.
Works. Preliminary report submitted.

Wythall

Inkford and Engineers preparing up-to-date preliminary report.
Tanners Green.
Shawbrook In abeyance pending clarification re future
area. development.
Houndsfield Lane, Works Improvements and sewerage
of Station Road, Alcester Road area - recently
referred to Consulting Engineer.
Norton Lane - Surveyor authorised to negotiate
with Solihull Council for connection of 22 houses.

Pail Emptying

Pail emptying service was continued at fortnightly intervals in Stoke Prior and in a portion of Wythall parish.

4. Public Cleansing

A new system of collection was commenced on 1st April under the direct control of the Surveyor's Department, the use of Contractors vehicles being dispensed with and new vehicles purchased by the Council.

SECTION D

HOUSING

As will be seen from figures under Section A of this report, the population of the district was increased by 1,220. Although 26 houses were erected by the Council and 324 by private enterprise, the general position remained much the same, there still being 632 applicants on the Council's housing list.

Details of action taken under the Housing and Public Health Acts are included in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Routine inspections of food premises were continued during the year, and every effort was made to ensure the clean and safe handling of foodstuffs. Further reference to the subject is made in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report.

Food Poisoning

Six individual cases of food poisoning were notified during the year. Investigation failed to show the cause.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Notifiable Disease 1957

DISEASE	Corrected Notifications	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Smallpox	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	5	-	-
Measles	309	-	-
Whooping Cough	110	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-
Dysentery	6	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	2 (Paralytic 1) (Non-Paralytic 1)	1	-
Acute Encephalitis	-	-	-
Erysipelas	2	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	10	-	14
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	6	-	-
TOTAL	451	1	14

Diphtheria Immunisation

The number of children immunised during the year was as follows:-

Primary Immunisation

Under 5 years old	...	...	...	385	(331)
5 - 14 years old	...	...	...	20	(25)
				405	(356)
Re-inforcing (Booster) injections				288	(272)

The "Immunisation State" of children in the Rural District on 31st December, 1957, was as follows:-

Age at 31.12.57. i.e. Born in year	Under 1 1957	1-4 1953-1956	5-9 1948-1952	10-14 1943-1947	Under 15 Total
Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster), 1952-1956	51	1,249	1,661	247	3,208
1951 or earlier	-	-	670	2,101	2,771
Number of Births	579	1,774			

Smallpox

No case of smallpox was reported.

Number of persons Vaccinated (or Revaccinated) during 1957:-

Age at 31.12.57 i.e. Born in year	Under 1 1957	1 1956	2-4 1953-1955	5-14 1943-1952	15 and over 1942	Total
Number Vaccinated	404	14	7	9	6	440
Number Revaccinated	-	-	-	2	8	10

The number of babies Vaccinated showed an increase over the previous year. The figure of 404 was 71% of the average number of babies born in the two years 1957-1956 which was 568.

Tuberculosis

Incidence and Mortality during 1957

Age	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	4	3	1	-	-	1	-	-
45 - 64	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	8	4	2	-	-	2	-	-

Tuberculosis continued to be notified to the district council.

The statutory duty, however, of keeping the Tuberculosis Register, rested with the County Council.

The District Health Department continued to maintain a list of individuals resident within the district notified as suffering from Tuberculosis, which was kept up-to-date by information received from the County Medical Officer of Health.

Twelve cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year.

The total number of registered cases was 159 (169) as follows:-

	M.	F.	Total
Pulmonary	70	71	141
Non-Pulmonary	9	9	18
Total	79	80	159

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1957

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
BROMSGROVE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Report for 1957.

Owing to the financial stringency the giving of grants under the Housing Act, 1949 was suspended for 12 months from the 1st April. However, schemes in respect of 56 houses were certified as completed during the year.

Demolition Orders were made in respect of 14 houses and reference should be made to the helpful co-operation of the Housing Department in dealing with a number of bad cases due to unsatisfactory housing conditions and overcrowding.

Further water main extensions were carried out in the parishes of Bentley Pauncefoot and Stoke Prior, and a duplicate main was laid from Holy Cross to Belbroughton to overcome the water shortage in the Broom Hill area during certain hours of the day.

I look forward to the time when mains will have been laid to serve the Portway and Gorcott Hill areas of Beoley, the Dark Lane area of Wythall and the Rumbow, Vine Lane and Walton Pool areas of Clent.

The commencement of the work of reconstructing the Sewage Disposal Works at Hagley at a cost of over £70,000 gives hope that other major schemes in need of urgent attention will not be much longer delayed.

Again I am pleased to report that practically all the meat slaughtered in the five slaughter-houses in operation in the District was inspected and found to be of a high standard.

I am pleased to report that the general work of the Department has gone on smoothly throughout the year and I am indebted to my Staff for their co-operation and to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support at all times.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

PEARSON P. CHAMINGS,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

COMPLAINTS

A total of 106 complaints were received during the year 1957, all of which were investigated and appropriate action taken.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following are the numbers and nature of Inspections made during the year:-

Houses inspected	981
Number of inspections and re-inspections of houses ..	2,440
Inspections under Housing Regulations	-
Visits re Complaints and Nuisances	161
Visits re Notifiable Diseases	23
Knacker's Yard	21
Visits re Meat Inspection	547
Milk and Dairies	23
Piggeries	125
Bakehouses	-
Schools	4
Factories and Workshops	81
Outworkers' Premises	-
Tents, Vans and Sheds	567
Water Supply	275
Works in Progress	453
Drainage	594
Shops, etc. (re unfit food)	8
Visits to Shops and Food Premises	297
Rodent Control	61
Canal Boats	3
Outside Interviews	727
Vermineous Premises	-
Miscellaneous	198
Total number of informal Notices served during the year	67

HOUSING

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:-

- (i) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 981
- (b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose 2,440
- (ii) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 -
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose -
- (iii) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 19

(iv)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) not found to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	85
2.	Remedy of defects during the year without Service of formal Notices:-	
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	126
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-	
A.	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:-	
(i)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	-
(ii)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-	
	(a) By Owners	-
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	-
B.	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-	
(i)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	-
(ii)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-	
	(a) By Owners	-
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	-
C.	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-	
(i)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	14
(ii)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in anticipation of Demolition Orders	1
(iii)	Number of Undertakings accepted under Section 11	2
D.	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:-	
(i)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	-
(ii)	Closing Orders under L.G. (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953	1

(iii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit -

4. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV - Overcrowding in the district.

It is not possible to supply accurate figures for overcrowding in the district.

General - Housing

Fourteen Demolition Orders were made during the year and included six shacks at Clent Villa Farm, Hagley. One sub-standard bungalow was demolished as a result of informal action.

The one Closing Order was made in respect of a house which it was not possible to demolish until adjoining property is dealt with.

Two Undertakings were accepted that houses were not to be used for human habitation until rendered fit to the satisfaction of the Council, and in one of these cases the work was done, the house being converted into one with the adjoining cottage and the Undertaking was cancelled.

One house listed for consideration for demolition was rendered fit without formal action and in another case, as a result of informal action, the owner agreed not to re-let an unsatisfactory bungalow.

One hundred and twenty-six houses were repaired, and in no case was it necessary to issue Statutory Notices under the Public Health Act, as I believe that better results are invariably obtained by the informal approach.

The Council suspended, for one year from the 1st April, the making of Improvement Grants. Applications were, however, approved to the end of March for 19 houses. Four applications were refused and one approved case was withdrawn by the applicant, and at four houses work was not commenced.

Rent Act, 1957

A total of 27 applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received from July to the 31st December. Nine Undertakings were received and nine Certificates were issued as a result. In the remaining cases action was not completed by the end of the year.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

There were ten sites licensed under the Public Health Act and twenty individual licences in force during the year.

The total number of moveable dwellings in permanent occupation throughout the District was 484 mainly modern trailer caravans.

The demand for this type of accommodation arose mainly from persons not previously resident in the District.

The Camping Club of Great Britain continued to maintain their holiday site at Romsley in a satisfactory manner.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk

As the District was in a "Specified area", all milk sold to the public had to be under one of the authorised Special Designations, and consequently no samples of non-designated milk were taken.

The 26 samples of designated milk submitted for examination complied with the required standard. It will be appreciated that a large percentage of the milk retailed in the District was bottled in other Authorities' areas where it was regularly sampled and, therefore, only a limited number were taken by my Department.

In addition, 10 samples were taken for biological examination, all of which were negative for M.Tuberculosis.

The Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949

The following licences (including supplementary licences) were issued during the year:-

Tuberculin Tested Milk:-

Dealers Bottling	2	Distributors	35
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Pasteurised Milk:-

Distributors	42
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Sterilised Milk:-

Distributors	42
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(b) Meat and other Foods

There were eight licensed Slaughterhouses in the District, but at only five was regular slaughtering carried out. All animals slaughtered were inspected and this entailed some extra work at week-ends and evenings.

Following is a summary of the inspections and condemnations which took place:-

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	562	51	91	2,445	662
Number inspected	562	51	91	2,445	662
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	1	-	3	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	32	12	-	8	25
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	5.69	25.49	-	0.44	3.77
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcass condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	13	17	-	-	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	2.31	33.33	-	-	0.30

Routine visits were made to food shops, cafes and public-houses for the inspection of premises and examination of food-stuffs and, in the main, conditions were reasonably satisfactory.

A certain amount of foodstuffs of various kinds were condemned as unfit for human consumption at retail food premises during the year.

(c) Ice Cream

The total number of registrations in force for premises for the manufacture of Ice Cream was two and for retail sale only 118.

Seventy-eight samples were submitted during the year for bacteriological examination and the results of the samples were as follows:-

Provisional Grade	1 -	75 Satisfactory
	2 -	2 Satisfactory
	3 -	1 Unsatisfactory
	4 -	- Unsatisfactory

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT

Twenty-seven licences to slaughter animals were issued under the above Act during the year.

HOUSE DRAINAGE

Twenty-five existing houses were connected to the sewer and 33 were drained to cesspool, making a total of 58 for the year. Repairs were carried out to drainage systems at a further 15 properties.

The question of providing sewers to various parts of the District and improving disposal works where necessary was considered by the Council during the year, and work was started on the Sweetpool Lane Works, Hagley.

WATER SUPPLY

Six samples of mains water were submitted for bacteriological and chemical examination and all were satisfactory.

Fifty-one samples of water from private wells and springs were submitted for both chemical and bacteriological examination, twenty-four for bacteriological examination only, and two for chemical examination only.

Of these forty-six were bacteriologically unsatisfactory and twenty-one chemically unsatisfactory; thirty-two were chemically satisfactory and twenty-nine bacteriologically satisfactory.

Forty-one existing premises were connected to the water main in the course of 1957.

A total of 3,176 yards of new mains were laid by the various Water Undertakings within the District during the year.

These extensions were principally to supply new development in Wythall and Cofton Hackett, and completion of the scheme for Copyholt Lane, Stoke Prior and extensions of Banks Green main, Bentley and length from Orchard Farm to Gate Hangs Well, Stoke Prior.

The laying of duplicate mains to improve supplies to Broome Hill, Belbroughton was almost completed in the year. Arrangements were in hand to start the extension to Bell Heath, and Madeley early in 1958, but there is still the need to provide main water to the considerable number of houses in the district in urgent need of piped water supply, particularly in the Dark Lane area, Wythall; Portway and Gorcott Hill area, Beoley; Rumbow area, Clent; Vine Lane and Walton Pool, Clent.

DISINFESTATION

Two premises were found to be in need of disinfestation.

All the Council refuse tips were periodically treated for flies and crickets where necessary.

RODENT CONTROL

A full-time Rodent Operative is employed. A total of 147 infestations of private houses and 126 at business premises were successfully treated.

During the year the Council continued to provide a free service for the destruction of rats at private dwellings, but in the case of business premises a charge was made as previously.

The service was fully used and in addition a considerable number of visits were made for survey purposes by the Operative.

Thirty-seven contracts were made for the treatment of business and agricultural premises during the year and the income from this source amounted to £159.

Frequent inspections of the refuse tips and sewage works were carried out throughout the year and necessary treatments carried out by the Operative.

Test baiting of the sewers was carried out in September in accordance with the requirements of the Infestation Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, but no infestation was discovered.

Due to the co-operation of the public, possibly because of the free service, infestations were generally notified in their early stages and were thus only of a minor nature, but it seems essential to continue the service to prevent any large-scale build-up.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Two cases occurred during the course of the year where it was necessary to make arrangements for the burial, under the provisions of the above Act, of a person dying within the District.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIAL ACT, 1951

The premises of one firm are registered for the use of filling materials to which this Act applies.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

The number of industrial premises is not large and as a result air pollution from factory chimneys did not present a major problem.

It is of interest to record that certain provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956 came into force.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

PREMISES	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspec- tions (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers Prosecuted (6)
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	3	3	-	-
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	80	67	-	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	15	11	-	-
TOTAL	98	81	-	-

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

PARTICULARS (1)	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecu- tions were Instituted (7)
			Referred		
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):-					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	2	2	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	3	-	-	-





